

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8083

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 05295

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, GE, FR, US

SUBJECT: FRENCH-GDR CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 035617, PARIS 05258

1. ACTING CHIEF OF FONOFF'S BUREAU OF CONSULAR AND
TREATY AFFAIRS, JEANNOT, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS
FEBRUARY 20 WITH RESPECT TO RECENTLY CONCLUDED NEGO-
TIATIONS WITH GDR ON CONSULAR CONVENTION.

2. NATIONALITY ISSUE CONTINUED TO BE PRIMARY OBSTACLE
IN DISCUSSIONS. JEANNOT CONSIDERS THAT NATIONALITY
DEFINITION IS PRIMARY PURPOSE GDR HAS IN MIND IN NEGO-
TIATING CONVENTION AND THAT ALL OTHER ISSUES ARE
ANCILLARY.

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3. GDR NEGOTIATORS HELD FIRMLY TO ORIGINAL POSITION
THAT CONVENTION SHOULD CONTAIN NATIONALITY CLAUSE

BASED ON LAW OF SENDING STATE. PASSPORT DEFINITION
(WHICH JEANNOT SAID HAD ORIGINATED WITH SAUVAGNARGUES)
WAS NOT DISCUSSED. FRENCH DID NOT OFFER TO COMPROMISE
WITH ADAMANT GDR POSITION. EMBASSY VOICED OUR DIS-
ENCHANTMENT WITH PASSPORT COMPROMISE PROPOSAL.
JEANNOT SAID HE WAS ALREADY AWARE OUR POSITION;
APPARENTLY VIA FRENCH EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

4. A PROBLEM RELATED TO NATIONALITY QUESTION
INVOLVED CLAUSES COVERING ARRESTS. IN TREATIES
FRANCE HAD WITH OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES,
PROVISION WAS MADE FOR "AUTOMATIC" NOTIFICATION OF
CONSULAR OFFICIALS AND "AUTOMATIC" ACCESS BY SUCH
OFFICIALS TO ARRESTED PERSONS WHETHER OR NOT LATTER
REQUESTED IT. FRENCH COULD NOT AGREE TO DO SAME FOR
EAST GERMANY FOR OBVIOUS REASONS.

5. ANOTHER UNRESOLVED ISSUE REMAINS QUESTION OF
IMMUNITIES, WIT/ FRENCH UNWILLING TO ACCEED TO GDR
DESIRE TO GIVE CONSULAR OFFICERS SOMETHING APPROACHING
FULL IMMUNITIES ENJOYED BY DIPLOMATS.

6. IN GENERAL, IT APPEARS THAT LITTLE WAS ACCOM-
PLISHED DURING LATEST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. JEANNOT
MADE PURELY PERSONAL SPECULATION THAT PERHAPS GDR WAS
WAITING TO SEE WHETHER SAUVAGNARGUES WOULD BE REPLACED
BY SOMEONE WIT/ WEAKER TIES TO WEST GERMANY. IN ANY
EVENT NOBODY ON FRENCH SIDE SEEMS TO BE IN ANY HURRY,
AND ALTHOUGH THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT NEGOTIATIONS
MIGHT BE RENEWED IN MAY OR JUNE, JEANNOT DID NOT SEEM
PARTICULARLY OPTIMISTIC THAT THEY WOULD IN FACT TAKE
PLACE AT THAT TIME.
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